

What is claimed is:

1. A purified polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 1.
2. A purified polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least about 95% identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
3. A purified polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 with one or more conservative amino acid substitutions.
4. A nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 1.
5. The nucleic acid of claim 4, wherein the nucleic acid comprises SEQ ID NO: 2.
6. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 4 or 5.
7. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 6.
8. The host cell of claim 7, wherein the host cell is a prokaryotic cell.
9. The host cell of claim 7, wherein the host cell is a eukaryotic cell.
10. An isolated antibody or fragment thereof that specifically binds the polypeptide of claim 1.
11. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is a polyclonal antibody.
12. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
13. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is labeled with a detectable moiety.
14. The antibody of claim 13, wherein the detectable moiety is selected from the group consisting of a fluorescent moiety, an enzyme-linked moiety, a biotinylated moiety and a radiolabeled moiety.

15. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is humanized.
16. A method for detecting expression of a tumor suppressor gene in a subject, comprising analyzing a sample from the subject for expression of a SKCG-1 gene.
17. The method of claim 16, wherein the SKCG-1 gene comprises the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.
18. The method of claim 16, wherein reduced expression of the SKCG-1 gene indicates the subject has or is at risk for developing cancer.
19. A method for determining whether a subject has or is at risk for developing cancer comprising: detecting reduced expression of the SKCG-1 gene in a test sample from the subject as compared to a control sample, wherein reduced expression of the SKCG-1 gene in the test sample indicates that the subject has or is at risk for developing cancer.
20. A method for determining whether a subject has or is at risk for developing cancer comprising: analyzing the methylation status of a SKCG-1 gene in a sample from the subject and detecting a difference in methylation status as compared to that of a comparable normal cell, wherein the difference in methylation status indicates that the subject has or is at risk of developing cancer.
21. A method for determining whether a subject has or is at risk for developing cancer comprising: detecting the presence or absence in the SKCG-1 gene of said subject a genetic polymorphism comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3, with one or more point mutations, wherein the point mutations comprise point mutations located between nucleotide position 1546 to nucleotide position 1555, and wherein the presence of the genetic polymorphism indicates that the subject has or is at risk of developing cancer.
22. The method of any one of claims 19-21, wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of breast cancer, renal cancer and ovarian cancer.

23. A method of suppressing growth of a tumor cell, comprising introducing into the tumor cell an expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, wherein expression of the polypeptide in the tumor cell, suppresses growth of the tumor cell.
24. The method of claim 23 in which the cell is a human tumor cell.
25. The method of claim 24 in which the tumor cell is a breast carcinoma cell, a renal carcinoma cell or an ovarian carcinoma cell;
26. The method of claim 23 in which the expression vector is a viral vector.
27. The method of claim 26 in which the viral vector is a retroviral vector or an adenoviral vector.
28. The method of claim 23 in which the expression vector is a plasmid.
29. The method of claim 23 in which the polynucleotide is operably linked to a retroviral long-terminal repeat, a cytomegalovirus promoter, a  $\beta$ -actin promoter, a glucocorticoid-inducible promoter, a SV40 early region promoter or a herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase promoter.
30. The method of claim 23 in which the expression vector is introduced into the cell *in vitro*.
31. The method of claim 23 in which the expression vector is introduced into the cell *in vivo*.

32. A method of suppressing tumor cell growth in a subject, comprising introducing into the tumor cell in the subject, an expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein expression of the polypeptide in the tumor cell in the subject, suppresses growth of the tumor cell in the subject.
33. The method of claim 32 in which the cell is a human tumor cell.
34. The method of claim 33 in which the tumor cell is a breast carcinoma cell, a renal carcinoma cell or an ovarian carcinoma cell.
35. The method of claim 32 in which the expression vector is a viral vector.
36. The method of claim 35 in which the viral vector is a retroviral vector or an adenoviral vector.
37. The method of claim 32 in which the expression vector is a plasmid.
38. The method of claim 32 in which the polynucleotide is operably linked to a retroviral long-terminal repeat, a cytomegalovirus promoter, a  $\beta$ -actin promoter, a glucocorticoid-inducible promoter, a SV40 early region promoter or a herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase promoter.
39. The method of claim 32 in which the expression vector is introduced into the cell *in vitro*.
40. The method of claim 32 in which the expression vector is introduced into the cell *in vivo*.
41. The method of claim 32 in which the expression vector is delivered by direct injection.